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Appl. No. TBD Preliminary Amdt. Dated May 2, 2006 Reply to Office action of N/A

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.

TBD

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Applicant

Hideko Akashi et al.

Filed

Herewith

Title

THAWING METHOD

Int'l. Application No.

PCT/US2004/016845

Int'l. Filing Date

November 12, 2004

Conf. No. TC/A.U.

TBD TBD

Examiner

TBD

Customer No.

52054

Docket No.

40369

Mail Stop PCT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT "A"

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application, prior to examination thereof, in the following manner.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.